

Waterloo Elementary School

5940 Waterloo Road Columbia, Maryland 21045 (410) 313-5014



EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Arlene Harrison
Principal

Brad Herling
Assistant Principal

April 30, 1997

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MAY 19 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are faculty from Waterloo Elementary School of Howard County in Maryland. We are writing in support of the Universal Service discounts for schools and libraries that have been recommended by the Joint Board.

We would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Highway. It will enable us to broaden our knowledge of the world.

The Telecommunications Act and the Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide long distance -learning for everyone. The \$2.5 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will provide services directly to the classroom where it will be utilized most effectively. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. It will enable students to do research projects from a computer lab or in their own classroom. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

These discounts would enable us to utilize an internal E-Mail system to connect our faculty. This would encourage collaboration of staff through communication when leaving the classroom is not an option. It would also provide access to web sites on various subjects where lesson plans are available as a resource. Administrators would find it a valuable tool for dissemination of information to staff.

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Students at different grade levels would also be able to cooperate on projects or practice writing skills with a network of pen pals. In short, this would be an invaluable resource to our classroom teachers.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. We urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Wolniak

Susan C. Schubert

Jerry Adams

Donna R. Bick

Mary Bray

Carol Bond

Edmund Stengel

Laura Nord

Alay Peyer

Jim Graham

Rebecca Zipp

Laurie Ann Harvey

Gail Pleasant

Julie Allen Hughes

Gamie Eberhart

Hanne LeClair

Laura Leahy

Beth Charnock

Laurie Ann Harvey

Melanie L. Conley

Sherry R. Beatty

Ruth L. Huang

Lorraine K. Beri

Pam Jones

Betty Rosendall

Dan Skoog

Patti King

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Paso Robles Teachers Association
P.O. Box 1587 • Paso Robles, Ca. 93447



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CC 96-45

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. St. NW, Room 814
Washington DC 20554

MAY 19 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear Mr. Hundt,

We are writing in support of discounts on telecommunications services for schools and libraries. Every school needs to have access to the world of information technology. The Telecommunications Act mandates the development of special discount rates for all schools and libraries.

The Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service sent to the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) set of recommendations for implementing the Universal Service Fund provisions related to schools and libraries.

We urge your support of the Joint Board's recommendations. They will provide affordable discounts for a full range of services, and give schools and libraries flexibility in choosing the services needed to meet each community's needs. These provisions, if adopted by the FCC, will make advanced technology for learning available to all Americans.

Anzy Reynolds
[Signature]
Mary H. [Signature]
Diane [Signature]
Karen [Signature]
Breta Yarborough

[Signature]
Susan [Signature]
Dane Borkelman
Nancy Scott
Karen Bull
Christine Birkenfeld
Shauna [Signature]
Linda Wonsley

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April 16, 1997

MAY 19 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

CC: Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I write in strong support of affordable and meaningful discounts for all schools and libraries so that every school child and life-long learner can have access to the world of information technology. The passage of the Telecommunications Act last year mandates the development of a rate for education or an "e-rate" to secure affordable rates reflecting the financial capability of this community.

Integrating technology into the curriculum requires advanced telecommunications services and access for all classrooms - not just those classrooms in the public sector. National education surveys indicate that Catholic school classroom access to computers and connectivity is at least 50% behind that of its public school counterparts. I know for a fact that this percent is high when compared to many of our local urban Catholic schools.

In addition to the technology plan for my school being in place, the majority of Catholic schools in the greater Toledo area also have their technology plan ready to go, while the remainder of schools are currently finalizing their plan. We are however significantly disadvantaged and hindered in trying to implement our plans, because Catholic schools are excluded from most local and state funded initiatives for purchase of technology hardware. This reality compounded with the simple fact that without discounts on internal wiring and Internet access, these services may not be affordable to many schools.

I ask you to ensure that telecommunications companies provide services to schools and libraries at significantly discounted rates. I also strongly urge you to act upon this historic opportunity to bring the world of information to every school child and life long learner in America.

Sincerely,

Sister M. Leonella Zak O.S.F./S.
6832 Convent Blvd.,
Aglovaria, Ok. 43560

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